

ABSTRACT

An apparatus, a carrier medium storing instructions to implement a method, and a method for controlling the gain of a radio receiver for receiving packets of information in a wireless network. The receiver is connected to an antenna subsystem and has receive signal path including a plurality of sections including a first section coupled to the antenna subsystem and a next section. Each section has an adjustable gain and is able to provide a measure of the signal strength at its output. The method includes waiting for a start of packet indication, providing a measure of the signal strength at the output of the first section and the next section, and adjusting the gains of the first and the next sections using the provided measured signal strengths. In one embodiment, the receive signal path includes a filter, the provided measure for the first section is before the filter, and the provided measure for the second section is after the filter. The gain adjusting sets first section's gain according to the measured signal strength at the output of the first section and sets the next section's gain according to the provided measure of signal strength at the output of the next section relative to the provided measure of signal strength at the output of the first section. In one embodiment, the gain adjusting is carried out in sequential AGC stages, one stage setting the gain of one or more sections.